LEAROYD HECKLED AT COAL MEETING

Fuel Administrator Is Butt of 'Middle Class' Who Argue for Poor.

SNARL AT HIS ADVICE

Brooklyn People Tramp Out of Hall When Mr. Learoyd Speaks.

GETS

ANGRY

Summonses for 20 Landlords Who Have Not Heated Apartments.

When Arthur S. Learoyd, Fuel Administrator for New York city, consented yesterday to attend a meeting of citizens of Brooklyn held in the public school at East Tenth street and Avenue K he thought it was going to be a pleasant little symposium to compare notes on the coal shortage. Before the metropolitan Fuel Administrator had run the gantlet of heckling to which he was subjected after he had agreed to "answer any fair questions," he must have thought he had inadvertently butted into a hornets'

Mr. Learoyd's discomfiture have been more acute had not Daniel J. Sweeney come to his rescue several times in his capacity as chairman of the meeting, which had been called by the allied coal committee of the Civic League. Mr. Learoyd's audience was not a plutocratic one. It was com-posed chiefly of what are known as "middle class folk."

Perhaps that is why scores of them burst into a scornful guffaw and then tramped out of the hall when the Fuel

Administrator told them;
"We are not so much concerned about meeting the needs of people situated as you and I are, because we can close our homes and move into hotels for the winter; but we are anxious to supply the man who can only purchase his fuel in 100 pr 200 pound lots."

Remarks Are Derided.

Before this partial exodus was precipitated Mr. Learoyd had safd; "New York is getting its share of the coal that is being produced. When the Fuel Administration went into service, about September 15, we urged the public to use antiracite sparingly during the mild weather and to burn substitutes. How many in this audience have followed that suggestion?"

Many signified that they had done so and demanded a chance to tell how they

coal.

"You say you couldn't get buckwheat sizes," shouted Mr. Learoyd at his becklers, "Nonsense! Why, we couldn't give it away! There has been, is and will be a shortage of anthracite."

Several of his auditors who persisted in trying to tell Mr. Learoyd their troubles were suppressed by the chairman. Mr. Learoyd finally left the meeting accompanied by Samuel Drummond, Fuel Administrator for Brooklyn and Queens.

Demand Investigation.

Lorin M. Black, Jr., Representative-elect to Congress, declared an embargo should be placed upon coal shipments to Canada and urged that Congress be asked to make an immediate investiga-tion into the entire fuel situation. He declared his intention to exhaust all legal processes to compet the attend-ance in the Flatbush magistrate's court to-morrow morning of officials conance in the Fiatbush magistrate's court to-morrow morning of officials connected with the fuel administration.

The meeting adopted resolutions demanding a Federal inquiry and immediate relief -because "the situation is causing untold misery to the public. There are persistent rumors of unfair tractices by the mine owners and operators, such as being responsible for the recent strike and coal being held back with an idea of geiting better prices." Another resolution urged that the Police and Fire Departments be enlisted to make an inspection of all cellars in the city to detect hoarding.

About twenty cases are to be heard to-morrow by Magistrate Charles Oberwager in the Morrisania Court, against landlords accused of not supplying to tenants sufficient heat or hot water. Alexander J. Frazier, Fuel Administrator for The Bronx, will sit with the magistrate in the hope of gleaning useful first hand information. This announcement was made following a conference attended by Mr. Frazier, Magistrates Oberwager and John E. McGechan, Assistant District Attorney Edward Chapman and Albert Goodman president of the Bronx Board of Trade.

Plenty of Substitutes.

At the conference Mr. Frazier said there were enough anthracite substitutes and soft coal in The Bronx to meet 20 per cent. of the demand and that domestic coal substitutes at \$10 a ton had given better results than the imported British anthracite at \$18. "Plenty of anthracite is on its way to The Bronx from the mines." he said, "and there is no excuse for anybody to be without fuel."



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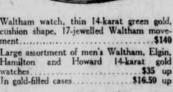
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